

Appl. No. : 011,797
Filed : July 23, 1998

In addition, preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the Application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 43-46, and 53-56.

Please amend the remaining claims as follows:

B¹ 39. (Amended) An isolated peptide according to Claim 38, comprising the peptide listed as SEQ ID NO:2 ~~or~~ **agonists of a receptor or receptors of said peptide**].

B² 41. (Amended) An isolated peptide according to Claim 38, comprising the peptide listed as SEQ ID NO:3 **agonists of a receptor or receptors of said peptide**].

42. (Amended) An isolated peptide according to Claim 38, comprising the peptide listed as SEQ ID NO:4 **agonists of a receptor or receptors of said peptide**].

B³ 48. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an element selected from the group consisting of an isolated polynucleotide according to Claim 35, an isolated peptide encoded by said isolated polynucleotide, **[an inhibitor directed against said isolated polynucleotide,]** and a vector comprising said isolated polynucleotide, said pharmaceutical composition further comprising [and] a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

In Claim 51, on line 1, before the word "isolated" and after the word "or", please cancel the word "an" and substitute in its place the word --said--.

In Claim 52, on line 1, before the word "isolated" and after the word "or", please cancel the word "an" and substitute in its place the word --said--.

B⁴ 57. (Amended) A diagnostic and/or dosage device, comprising:
an inhibitor which is directed against an isolated polynucleotide according to Claim 35, or an isolated peptide encoded by said isolated polynucleotide[, **or a receptor or receptors of said isolated peptide**];

[an]the isolated peptide encoded by **[said]the** isolated polynucleotide of Claim 35; and

optionally a receptor or receptors of said isolated peptide.

58. (Amended) A method of genetic treatment or prevention of a disease induced by an isolated polynucleotide according to Claim 35 or an isolated peptide encoded by said isolated polynucleotide in an animal, said method comprising the step of administering to a patient having said disease an inhibitor or a polynucleotide encoding said inhibitor with a